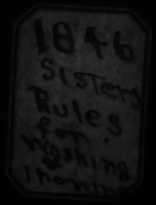

PAPERS
OF
SHAKERS

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OHIO
Union Village

Jan 7th 1866

Sisters Ruler for Washing Ironing Bathing &c

Rules for Washing and Ironing

1st. Sort your clothes and put every sort and kind together. If you have flannel sheets shirts drawers &c, shake and brush as much as necessary to get off the lint and loose dirt before they are wet.

Commence your washing with the object of doing it well and not quick.

Let every one be diligent and attentive to their work and not have to much talk.

And whether you wash with soda or with out it, have your clothes washed clean, boiled and ringed well. This with a little blueing will make them look very well.

Have particular care to the fine and starched clothes.

Pillow cases and night caps, should after blueing be starched a little.

Great care should be taken

with the woolen stockings and footings; have them washed clean and well rinsed then wring as dry as you can, after this straighten and leave them in good shape to dry.

After the washing is finished, clean the tubs, pails dippers &c and put them all in good order, clean the room and leave it as it should be, with the fire well taken care of, the brooms and mops hung up and the sink clean. Dont forget to be prudent of Soap

Next prepare for Ironing.

When the clothes are suitably dry commence fixing them as follows; Turn sprinkle & fold the shirts and shifts and put them in a basket shifts at the bottom and the shirts on the top, so that they the shirts may be ironed first and have the better chance to air. See that the gussets are straight and the clothes well folded. Have an old sheet well sprinkled and laid

in the bottom of the basket so that it can be brought around and cover the clothes.

Sprinkle brown clothes, fold and pack them in a basket.

The checkt and striped are to be sprinkled folded and packed in another basket.

The pillow cases fine shirts night caps white towels &c, after being sprinkled and folded to be put in another basket. The collars and white handkerchiefs after being sprinkled and folded

and done up in a white cloth may be put in the same basket if necessary.

There must be something in every basket to wrap around the clothes to keep them damp.

The caps should be wet and after a suitable time folded, and put in a starch cloth till time to Iron.

All clothes ought to lay a suitable time after being prepared. Dont fail to straighten the linen and cotton stockings for ironing.

Now if your Tables are well spread with sheets suitable to iron on, and your flats well het, you may commence, but be careful not to yellow the clothes.

Let each one attend and look on their work, and not be looking about the room to see what is a going on, & what others are doing, and beware not to have to much talk. this many times hurts the union and prevents the ironing being well done.

After ironing a garment smooth, hang it on a jack, slat, or line to air; proceeds in this way with all except the starched clothes, these are to be ironed till dry. Towels can be spread around to air if you choose, insted of hanging them up.

Remember to plete the shirt sleeves, except the sleeve wants mending, then for a token leave it, and when mended, let the mender lay the pleetes, and if she has not a hot

iron, smooth and shape it with her hands.

There cannot be to much care used with buttons.

Be extremely careful not to push the flat against the buttons, nor ever set the flat on the buttons so as to hurt them.

There must be great pains taken to iron around the buttons and not to injure the collar, and especially the sisters, but care should be taken with every garment that has a button on it;

with great care the flat may be slipped lightly over the button, and not injure it, but it cannot be pushed against the button and not injure it.

Now when the ironing is done, let every basket with every thing used about the ironing be put in its place, the room cleaned and put in good order.

Always remember to take good care of the fires.

We desire what is here

written, may not be regarded as a worthless word, but that every one may attend to it, for one, and in this way, it will prove a word profitable to all.

Eldress Dana and Cassandana

Rules respecting the Sisters Washing and bathing in hot weather

No one is to wash more than their hands and face and their feet if necessary within five days after being taken unwell, and not within the same number of days before the time they expected to be taken unwell. Except it is thought necessary to soak their feet in warm water.

At other times in hot

weather, they may take a pail of water that has been set in the sun, and wash themselves all over if they choose. The water may have the chill taken off any way; but let it not be entirely cold water.

They may if they choose have a pail of cold water stand in their room over night, and wash in the morning.

But by no means put at any time their feet in cold water, except it is advised to go in all over.

When they wash themselves they may wash their feet with a cloth, but dont be long about it, and never put them in a pail of water even if it has stood in the sun.

Should it be advisable for any one to be showered, or to bathe in a tub or trough, have the union of the Elder Sisters as well as the nurses.

Children should be washed all over once a week in warm

weather, but let the water have the chill taken off, except it be brook or pond water, or water that has stood in the sun.

Great care should be taken that children should have plenty of air; for it is a given point, that children need more air than grown people. And in cold weather dont have their rooms to hot. They had much better be to cold than to be warm. And by no means never suffer a child

to take off their shoes and heat their feet by the fire.

This is injurous for young people, and children should not be allowed to do it.

A few words respecting lodging with the windows up in hot weather.

If in very hot weather, you can have a window or windows raised in your lodgeing rooms, without the air comeing immediately

on the bed or beds where you lay, it is all well, and for people in common health it may be done in safety. But dont have it come near your heads or feet.

And further never put damp sheets on your beds, and by no means put on damp shifts, stockings, gowns, or any kind of damp garments; neither go with wet feet.

Should you by accident wet your feet hasten to

change your shoes and stockings as quick as possible.

When you are washing be carefull not to wet yourselves, nor to spil water about the room; and teach your children to do likewise.

And again when hot or sweaty never sit in the wind or evening air.

With these few things here named, there are many things that you have been

taught, and will hereafter be taught in respect to health, which are to be strictly attended to, for the justification of every one. .

For be assured if any one or ones goes, contrary to their good teaching and by that means brings weakness upon themselves, they will surely have to suffer for it.

It is our desire that strict attention will be paid to

all here written, by every one that expects to support their union, and have a home among the faithful.

Eldress Dana & Cassandana

Rules for making Shirts

No backstitching or side-stitching to be done to the collar or wristbands of either coarse or fine shirts. The wristbands may be run two

threads up and two down, at a suitable distance from the edge, but not exceeding three eights of an inch.

The width of the wristband should not exceede two inches. The end of the sleeve should not be left open more than three inches. No shirt should have more than one button on the bosom.

Rules for plaiting gowns.

All nice gowns except cotton, are to be plaited box plaits, not exceeding three plaits each side of the back.

All every day gowns are to be plaited box or flat plaits, not exceeding four flat plaits each side of the back.

Cotton gowns may be plaited little plaits or gathered.

Rules for marking Clothes.

Every garment should be marked before it is worne or hung away; that it may readily be known who is the owner. No marking with any other color except white or blue. If any dots are required to be made for the sake of distinction, they should not exceede four stitches.

No strokes or crinkles are to be marked, under or by the side of any letter, and no needless dots.

No diamonds or hearts or any other needless superfluities to be marked on any garment neck handkerchief; pocket handkerchief, or any thing else; and all who have such marks upon their clothing, they are required to pick them out before they use them any more.

Ministry.

City of Union Feb. 11. 1845.

A few words respecting what we give to the poor.

Our ever blessed Mother ann when on earth, impressed it upon the minds of her children, to be kind to the poor, and to impart a portion of the good things which God hath blessed them with, to the needy and destitute, and in so doing they would be blest in their basket and in their store.

And truly this command of our Mother has been observed by all her faithful children to the present day.

But lest this gift should not be maintained in its fullness, we feel it to be necessary to have a written word to stir up our minds to faithfulness in the performance of our duty; so that we may be made able to do all that we do according to the will of our heavenly parents, who have blessed,

us with plenty, and some to spair to the children of this world.

And as their is a day appointed to collect what we have to give to the poor and needy, both food and clothing; let it be done according to the following order.

All kinds of provision should be good according to its kind; if meat, let it be well preserved, and not that which is hurt, or mostly bones. To give a poor person meat that is hurt

or mostly bones, is not doing honor to the way of God, neither is it as we should like to be done by:

And again all kinds of clothing, are to be of that kind that will do some good, and they must be both clean and well mended.

To give old cotton clothes that are almost as tender as paper, will do but little good; much better sell them to make paper, and what we give have it worth something.

If we give the rags to the poor they are wasted. And all kinds of woolen clothing; if we intend a garment for the poor, dont wear it till it will do a poor person but little good.

The same with shoes, stockings, footings, mittins, have all that we give, be that which will be useful, and an honor to our profession. To give an old pare of shoes that are good for nothing, or at least but very little, we had much better

burn them up than give them to a poor person to leave in the streets.

In these things as well as all others we must look well to our doings, lest we bring a reproach upon ourselves and the way of God. And as a word to the wise is sufficient we will say no more at this time.

Ministry.

A Message from Mother Dana,
Given in the year 1851.

Come arise and look round
And echo the sound
For tis time to remember the poor
Look all through your stores
Both in and out doors,
And in all remember the poor.

Yea amidst all your plenty
O do not deal scanty
But be liberal and kind to the poor
They are naked and hungry
And God will be angry
If ye do not remember the poor.

Now each sister and brother
That's a true child of Mother
Will surely look out for the poor
For she strictly enjoined
That all should be kind
And always remember the poor.

So ye ye on quickly
And think of the sickly
How many there are that are poor
Who have not a cloth
But what ye would loath
Can you help but remember the poor.

Tis a dangerous thing
For any to fling

Reproaches or slight on the poor
God will such despise
And hear not their cries
Because they help not the poor.

So dear children I pray
You would not one day,
Forget to be kind to the poor
But try to relieve
And be thankful to give
To the poor the suffering poor.

SHAKER COLLECTION

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